

Mayor pro-tem called to active Army duty

Ashley Lawrence
Staff Writer

No one has questioned the continued absence of one member of the Romulus City Council who has missed every meeting during the past two months.

That's because he couldn't have a more honorable reason for his absence.

Mayor pro-tem and Army Reserve Sgt. First Class Randolph Gear has been called to duty to train soldiers on their way to war and to demobilize soldiers on their way back.

"It is an honor to serve my country in the military," said Gear. "I would not have it any

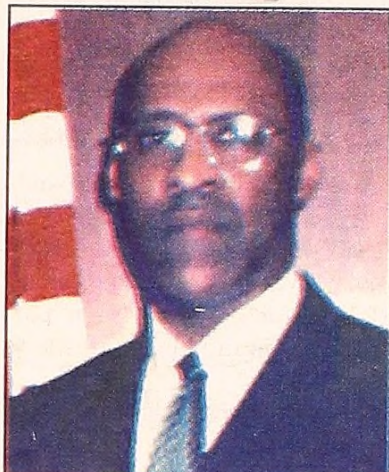
other way."

Gear, who has been stationed at Camp Atterbury in Indiana since Dec. 27, was given leave on a one-day pass Monday.

Camp Atterbury is a training and mobilization station for the Army National Guard.

"We are literally a training site for soldiers in the reserves who are being sent to Bosnia, Afghanistan, Kosovo and Iraq," said Gear. "We are in charge of getting these men and women ready for what they will encounter when they reach their destination overseas. We teach them different techniques for the situations they may encounter."

Gear also deals with soldiers



Randolph Gear

coming back from the war in Iraq.

"We are responsible for demo-

bilizing or debriefing the soldiers coming back," he said. "A lot of them come back wound up and up tight from everything they have been through. We try to calm them down and get them back to their lives."

While Gear said he is honored to do the duty, it is a hard job.

"It is more than just soldiers dying, it is soldiers being wounded every day over there," he said. "It is a lot bigger than what you see on NBC, MSNBC or CSPAN. We are in a war."

Gear said that the war is very serious and American soldiers are being affected every day. Even the nightly news updates

don't give an accurate depiction of the horror, he added.

"They don't talk about the men and women coming home without an arm or with half of their face gone from a grenade attack," he said. "This is the real stuff that is going on over there."

Gear said he recognized that is that this is one of the first wars during which women have been on the front lines fighting beside the men.

"Now we have female soldiers coming back and telling us that their tents were under attack every night. Grenades were thrown into to their living

See **Duty**, page 3



Students in Heather Bradlee's sixth grade class at Merriman Elementary School donated 100 books to needy students, while the entire school participated in a math solving problem program, which earned more than \$1,800 for the St. Jude Children's Respiratory Hospital.



New math Learning plus charity equals benefit for all

Ashley Lawrence
Staff Writer

It's sort of the "new math".

Students at Merriman Elementary School in Romulus have learned that academic achievement plus helping the less fortunate equals a benefit for everyone.

Sixth grade teacher Heather Bradlee and second grade teacher Karen Terwillifer developed and implemented math and read-

ing projects that not only improved the skills of students, but also resulted in significant contributions to local charities, they said.

Students in Bradlee's class donated to charity by reading books. In a group effort, students in the class read as many books as they could and were rewarded by the Scholastic Book Club. Because the students read more than 100 books, the Scholastic Book Club donated 100 books to

needy students.

Ciara Turner led the way in Bradlee's class reading 13 books.

"I really like reading and this was a good reason to read more books on subjects I enjoy," said Turner.

Bradlee said the program not only taught her students something about giving back to the community, it also got them enthusiastic about helping

See **School**, page 3

Suspect in string of church robberies dies

Ashley Lawrence
Staff Writer

A 38-year old Rives Junction man suspected of robbing two churches and attempting to rob a third in Romulus last week was killed after a police chase in Eaton Rapids, according to police.

Sgt. Jeff Lazarski of the Romulus Police Department said the man had already robbed two other churches before he made the attempt on the United Community Methodist Church, which is on Olive Street, across from the police station.

"First the suspect went in to the First Baptist Church in Lyon Township, where he tied up a woman working there and robbed the church," said Lazarski.

Tuesday morning the suspect entered the Trinity Episcopal Church in Belleville and tied up a 71-year-old woman working at the church. He stole \$11 from her and \$1 from the church, said Lazarski.

Just 30 minutes later the suspect showed up at the United Community Methodist Church in Romulus.

Lazarski said the suspect entered the church and encountered the secretary, a 41-year old Canton Township resident and sister-in-law of Romulus City Councilman LeRoy Burcroff. The man asked her if the pastor was in and when she said no, the suspect pulled out his gun and said, "It is your unlucky day".

"At the point the suspect placed the gun on the desk and took out some duct tape to tie the woman up, but she thought

"We were then able to trace him through the gun and found that he was also driving a stolen car."

quickly and ran out of the office," said Lazarski. "She ran out of the church, but the suspect caught up with her."

The woman then fought off the suspect by punching him a number of times, said police.

"She was able to knock the glasses off his face and get away," Lazarski said. "She then ran across the street to the police department, but by the time we got over there the suspect was gone."

However, he left behind his gun, duct tape and glasses, said Lazarski. Police used the gun to track him down.

"We were then able to trace him through the gun and found that he was also driving a stolen car," he said.

Romulus police then received a tip from the Eaton Rapids Police Department that the suspect wanted in connection with the three church robberies was being treated in a local hospital in Eaton Rapids. He had suffered injuries during a vehicle pursuit with Eaton Rapids police, said Lazarski.

During the chase the suspect crashed the stolen vehicle into a tree and sustained fatal injuries. He was pronounced dead later at the hospital as a result of those injuries, said police.

Helping hands

Volunteers, donations needed by area Habitat For Humanity

Megahn Chatham
Staff Writer

When thieves made off with the power tools used by Habitat For Humanity volunteers, they took a lot more than some small machines.

They threatened the future of several local families who could be helped by the western Wayne County chapter of the national volunteer organization.

According to Alice Dent, director of the organization, the group is in need of even the most basic supplies and equipment.

One of the most pressing needs, Dent said, is for new or used power tools due to the theft of those the volunteer home builders were using. Donations of other building supplies, such as nails or drywall, would also be appreciated.

The group also needs new or used office equipment and supplies. Printers, both color and black and white, and copy machines lead their wish list, although Dent said that they could use many things. Currently, the office staff shares one black and white printer.

"We need a printer really badly," said Dent.

All donations to Habitat for

Humanity are tax deductible.

The organization is also seeking volunteers for a variety of programs. According to Dent, the organization needs help inside the office as well as at the build site.

"The foundation of our organization is the office support committee," said Dent. The group uses volunteers to staff the phone, type, and perform other tasks within the office as needed.

They are also looking for volunteers for their other committees, including those focused on public relations, church relations, fundraising, and family support.

Whether for an hour or several days a week, Dent said that the organization would appreciate the help.

"We try to make it a very flexible work environment," she said. She added that they also try to pair volunteers with a job that fits their needs and desires, rather than just randomly assigning them to projects.

Dent speaks from experience, as she became the director of the organization after serving as a volunteer.

Professionals willing to offer pro-bono services in design, construction, printing, and mailing

"
This is a great way for people to give back. All they have to do is shop.
"

Alice Dent

are especially needed, Dent said.

However, the cheapest and easiest way to help out the western Wayne County chapter of Habitat for Humanity is by participating in the Meijer Rewards Program.

"This is a great way for people to give back," said Dent. "All they have to do is shop."

Participants need only complete a form either in a Meijer store or on the store web site for a rewards club card, and Meijer will then donate up to 4 percent of the final purchase price to Habitat for Humanity whenever that card is swiped. When registering for the program, the code number-identifying Habitat for Humanity as the recipient is 690918.

"We just received our first check," she said. "We average about \$50. We could really average a lot more...if more people

got involved." The organization became involved in the rewards program in December.

The group dedicated the 16th home built by volunteers for the needy Feb. 15 in Taylor. According to Dent, they are attempting to iron out the details on proposed builds in Van Buren, Inkster, and Canton Township for the 2004-2005 season. Habitat officials are currently waiting for a response from the cities as to whether or not they would be willing to donate or sell the necessary property for the proposed homes at a reduced rate. With good weather, Dent said that volunteers could complete a home in two to three months.

"We're very excited to be able to provide decent, affordable housing," said Dent.

To qualify for Habitat-built homes, families must meet four criteria. First, they must be will-

ing to perform 250 hours of work, known as sweat equity. They must show a need for adequate housing.

They must be able to pay a zero percent mortgage. Finally, they must reside in western Wayne County.

For further information, or to donate, contact the Habitat for Humanity at 734-459-7744. Or, visit the web site at www.habitatwwc.org.

Michigan Avenue 212-mile garage sale set

Scott Spielman
Editor

Donna McEachern, executive director of the Wayne Chamber of Commerce, said she's hoping for a little more participation this year in events that highlight the history of U.S. 12, or Michigan Avenue.

She said she's already trying to get people to sign up for the first event, a 212-mile garage sale that stretches along the historic roadway.

The event takes place from May 14-16, she said.

"I sent out some information to the majority of people along Michigan Avenue and some along Wayne Road and asked for a confirmation by last Friday," she said.

"I still haven't received many responses."

Last year, the event was a bit of a surprise to the city, she said. She only had about two weeks notice before the inaugural event began, which wasn't enough time to mount a serious publicity campaign.

"A couple of people got involved, but we didn't really get enough to advertise it," she said.

Even so, those that did partake put out awnings and provided special bargains to lure motorists off of the roadway and into the stores, she said. Those that participated did relatively well, she added.

The event is designed to promote the heritage of U.S. 12,

which was once known by the name Sauk Trail. It also aims to highlight the many communities found along the 212-mile length, according to McEachern.

"I think it's a really neat idea," she said.

The May event is promoted as the longest antiques, collectibles and garage sale, she said. It's open to both businesses and residents that want to pitch stuff by the street-side.

It's one of several events planned along Michigan Avenue this year. In July, it will be promoted as the most patriotic road in America, with displays of red, white and blue exhibited prominently along the road. August will bring a celebration of small-town

hometowns and September will focus on the agricultural roots of the road.

McEachern said she would be making follow up calls this week to make sure the city capitalizes on the additional time they have to prepare for the events. She said she thinks there will be a lot more participation this year; business owners are just concerned with more immediate things, like slow February sales and the impending tax deadlines.

"It's like a wedding reception. Everyone knows they're coming, but they often don't tell the host," McEachern said.

"I'm not giving up on it. I've placed the seeds and now I'll find out who's interested."

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Cleaning up

The General Motors Powertrain Engine Plane in Romulus received the Clean Corporate Citizen designation from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. From left, Steve Somers, Plant Manager, Lisa Parks, Environmental Engineer, John Graczyk, UAW Local 163, Marleen Bandy, Environmental Engineer and Steven Chester, Director MDEQ.

‘Fist’ vandals arrested in Romulus

Ashley Lawrence
Staff Writer

Two vandals who covered a Detroit landmark with white paint Monday were caught later that day in Romulus.

The Joe Louis Fist, a landmark sculpture on Jefferson Avenue in downtown Detroit, was vandalized early Monday morning with gallons of white paint, according to Romulus police.

A motorist who witnessed the crime followed two Ypsilanti men thought to be responsible as they left the scene, said Sgt. Jeff Lazarski of the Romulus Police

Department.

As the witness followed the pickup westbound on I-94, he called Michigan State Police, said Lazarski.

“A call went out to the state police and then we were informed of the incident. Our officers found the suspects on I-94, just before the I-275 interchange in Romulus,” said Lazarski. “When they were pulled over, the two men had white paint all over them. They didn’t deny what they had done.”

Romulus police then turned the men over to the Detroit Police Department.

The 24-foot sculpture, honor-

ing heavyweight boxing champion Joe Louis, has hung over Jefferson Ave since 1986, when *Sports Illustrated* donated it to the City of Detroit.

Detroit police do not yet know the motivation for the vandalism, but Lazarski said he does.

“I would say that it was racially motivated,” he said.

Lazarski also said that Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick’s office has been in touch with the Romulus police to find out the names of the officers who apprehended the suspects.

“He wanted to tell them what a great job they did and thank them,” said Lazarski.

The proceeds were then donated to the St. Jude Children’s Respiratory Hospital.

Principal Shellie Moore was elated with the efforts of her students, their parents and their teachers.

“These projects show the dedication and support for outstanding academic accomplishments here at Merriman,” said Moore. “Our Merriman parents, students and teachers value both academic achievement and the concept of learning to give in our educational approach and the they all exemplify the school motto of ‘Reach for the stars.’”

Schools

FROM PAGE 1

other people.

“They were really excited,” she said. “They felt empowered that they were able to help other students. It is good to challenge the class to do things like this, because it gives them a sense of self.”

Bradlee said she also believes that teaching students to give back gives them self-confidence and allows them to realize the gifts they possess.

“Philanthropy is the sharing of time, talent and treasures,” said Bradlee. “Many of my students may not have the treasures to share, but they do have the time and the talent.”

Terwillifer also implemented a new school-wide program. Students had to see how many math problems they could solve from special math materials they received. The goal of the program was for students to get donations for each problem solved.

The students earned more than \$1,800 by solving up to 245 problems each.

Romulus student athletes sign college letters of intent

Ashley Lawrence
Staff Writer

Romulus High School football stars Kyle Wasson and Jamar Bird signed national letters of intent for full collegiate football scholarships recently.

Wasson will attend Eastern Michigan University and Bird will attend Wayne State University this coming fall.

Wade Cook, the Romulus High School head football coach, said he was very pleased with the signings.

“We play a competitive sched-

ule in the Mega-White League and three of our non-conference games this past year were with Mega-Red teams,” said Cook. “This gives the college coaches a chance to see what our players can do against top flight competition and that enhances their chances for these college scholarships.”

Jessie Merriweather, the Romulus High School athletic director, added, “Both Wasson and Bird have been outstanding representatives of the Romulus athletic program throughout their athletic careers.”



Two members of the senior class at Romulus High School signed football letters of intent with colleges. In the first row, from left, are Marilyn Wasson, Kyle Wasson, LaJoel Wasson and Jamar Bird. In the second row, from the left, are, Avery Taylor, Don Foley, Wade Cook and Jessie Meriweather.

Council approves 13 new city streets

Ashley Lawrence
Staff Writer

The map of Romulus is about to change.

Members of the city council approved the addition of 13 new streets to the public street system during the meeting Monday night.

The new streets will be placed within the Commons 2 subdivision and the Fairways at Gateway subdivision.

More streets are on the way in the Fairways at Gateway subdivision, however. At this time, of five phases of the project, only phase one is substantially complete, according to Carl Brooks, director of the Romulus Department of Public Works (DPW).

The new streets will result in an additional two local street miles, adding to the 71.87 miles currently under the jurisdiction of the city, as well as the 32.39 major street miles within Romulus.

Some residents of the new subdivisions voiced concerns at the council meeting regarding the responsibility for cleaning the construction debris on the new streets, since they will now be public streets.

Council members and Brooks quickly determined that the developer will still be responsible for major debris on the streets, but the city would now be responsible for day-to-day cleaning.

Brooks also noted in his letter to Mayor Alan Lambert that the addition of these streets and the streets to come in the Fairways at Gateway subdivision, the Avalon Meadows subdivision and

the Highlands of Romulus subdivision, the city will need to consider the purchase of an additional street sweeper.

Brooks said that every 10 miles of street translates into 30 miles for adequate cleaning as it takes at least three passes to do the job.

“If we can fit it into the budget I would say it would cost about \$175,000,” said Brooks. “I can assume that it would last, without any major repairs and maintenance for about five years.”

In Commons 2-Buckingham Drive will run from Hannan Road to Hampton Drive, Camden Drive will run from Buckingham Drive to Nottingham Drive, Nottingham Drive will run from Camden Drive to Cogswell Road, Victoria Drive will run from Buckingham Drive South to a dead end, Villager Drive will run from Nottingham Drive North to a dead end and Hampton Drive will run from Buckingham Drive to Nottingham Drive.

In Fairways at Gateway-Gateway Drive will run from Van Born South and Southeast to St. Andrews Drive, Miswood Court will run from Crystal Lake Drive to a cul-de-sac, Augusta Court will run from Gateway Drive to a cul-de-sac, Crystal Lake Court will run from Sand Piper Drive to a cul-de-sac, Crystal Lake Drive will run from Gateway Drive to Sand Piper Drive, San Piper Drive will run from Lochmoor Boulevard to Crystal Lake Drive and Lochmoor Boulevard will run from Sand Piper Drive South to Beverly Road.

The council members voted on 13 separate resolutions.

Duty

FROM PAGE 1

quarters taking off the arms of soldiers,” said Gear. “But, do not misunderstand, our men and women in the reserves are up this challenge and will succeed in their mission.”

Gear said he is keeping a positive attitude and staying strong

for his country, but asked that Romulus residents do something for the soldiers.

“Please keep these soldiers in your thoughts and prayers,” he said. “And if you know someone who is over there, write them a letter or give their family a call to see how they are doing. For some soldiers it is all they have.”

Gear said he has no idea of when he will be home, but that he will stay as long as duty calls.

OBITUARIES

ALRED, Cledia

Cledia Alred, 82, of Southgate, died Feb. 20.

Among her survivors are her children, Norman Alred and James (Judy) Alred; four sisters; six grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

Private funeral services were attended by the family.

Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park.

Arrangements were entrusted to Michigan Memorial Funeral Home in Huron Township.

TOURNIER, Leatha

Leatha May Tournier, 85, of Belleville, died Feb. 20.

Among her survivors are her daughter, D. Jean Wilder of Belleville; grandchildren, Ben Collins and Beth (Mark) Shelp, both of Belleville and Benjamin Tournier of Phoenix, AZ, and five great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Tournier was a member of the Maranatha Baptist Church in Belleville.

Funeral services were at the David C. Brown Funeral Home with the Rev. Paul Bostwick officiating.

Interment was at Washtenong Memorial Park in Ann Arbor.

REJMAN, Michael S.

Michael S. Rejman, 55, of Belleville, died Feb. 21.

Among his survivors are his parrents Steve H. and Eleanor (Korgal) Rejman of Belleville; sister, Denise (Anthony) Amodeo of Belleville, and a niece, Emily Grow, also of Belleville.

Funeral services were at the David C.

Brown Funeral Home with Father Thomas H. Cusick officiating.

MASON, Clark E.

Clark E. Mason, 79, of Dallas, TX, formerly of Belleville, died Feb. 17.

Among his survivors are his wife of more than 50 years, Juanita (Kanitz) Mason; children, Linda (Richard) Talmadge of Colorado Springs, CO and Becky Mason of Dallas, TX; grandchildren, Daniel E. (Lisa) Talmadge, Ryan D. Talmadge, Cindy Rae (Joshua) McElroy, Jeffrey Mason and Christopher Talmadge, and great-grandchildren, Timmy, Joshua, Alexis, Audrey, Kaitlyn and Justin.

Mr. Mason served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He was a member of the VFW Post 4434 in Sumpter Township.

Funeral services were at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church with the Rev. D. Lee Cullen, Jr. officiating.

Interment was at Hillside Cemetery in Belleville.

Arrangements were entrusted to the David C. Brown Funeral Home.

GRIMME, Eleanore M.

Eleanore M. Grimme, 92, of Sumpter Township, died Feb. 19.

Among her survivors are her son, Walter Grimme of Sumpter Township; brothers, Joseph (Mickey) Goggin and Richard Goggin, both of Chicago, IL; a brother-in-law, Herman Parduhn of Chicago, IL; grandchildren, Brian Grimme, Paulette Grimme and Debora (Steven) Cove, and four great-grandchildren, Evan, Lauren, Madison and Carter.

Mrs. Grimme was a member of the cancer volunteer group of St. Theodore's

Church in Westland.

Funeral services were at St. Anthony Catholic Church in Belleville with Father Thomas H. Cusick officiating.

Interment was at Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Detroit.

Arrangements were entrusted to the David C. Brown Funeral Home.

TACKETT, Clara

Clara M. Tackett, 79, of Lincoln Park, died Feb. 19.

Among her survivors are her children, Marlene (Edward) McCauley of Lincoln Park, Clarence E. (Lois) Tackett, Jr. of

Wyandotte, Mary A. Landlois of Ecorse and Nancy J. (Kenneth) Near of Westland; a son-in-law, Chuck Bradley of Trenton; sisters, Angeline Bennett of Belleville and Marie (Ronald) Narravare of Brooklyn, MI; a brother, Donald James Dupie of Belleville; 11 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

Funeral services were at the David C. Brown Funeral Home with Father Thomas H. Cusick officiating.

Interment was at Cherry Hill Cemetery in Canton Township.

See Obits, page 5

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BID INSTRUCTIONS FOR GRASS CUTTING AND RELATED SERVICES

The Charter Township of Van Buren will be accepting sealed bids for grass cutting and related services. Bids must be sealed in an envelope marked "GRASS BID" and submitted to the office of the Township Clerk, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111. Bids will be accepted until 3:00 p.m. EST Friday, March 12, 2004. Bids will be publicly opened at 3:00 p.m. on March 12, 2004. There will be a mandatory pre-bid and meeting tour and question/answer session on Friday, March 5, 2004 at 10:00 a.m.

Specifications may be obtained from the Clerk's Office during normal business hours. Bids will be accepted only on provided forms.

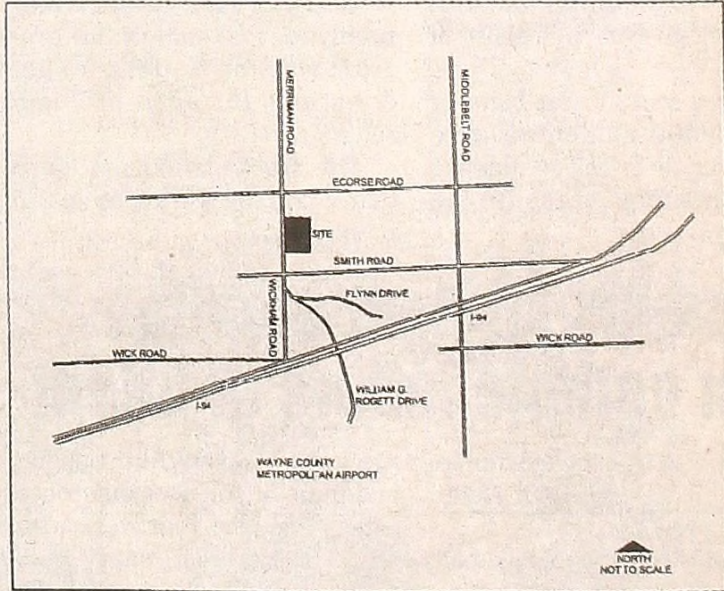
The Charter Township of Van Buren reserves the right to waive any discrepancies or irregularities in the bid. The Township reserves the right to reject any and all bids, and is not required to accept the low bid.

Publish: February 26, 2004

CITY OF ROMULUS PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to Michigan Public Act 207 of 1921, as amended (The City and Village Zoning Act), notice is hereby given that the City of Romulus will hold a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 15, 2004, for the purpose of considering a proposed amendment to the Zoning Map. The public hearing will be held at the Romulus City Hall Council Chambers, 11111 Wayne, Romulus, MI 48174-1485.

The Planning Commission has set the public hearing to consider a request to rezone six (6) parcels, comprising approximately 3.67± acres, located on a the east side of Merriman between Ecorse and Smith Roads, DP#s, 82-80-042-02-0003-000, 82-80-042-02-0004-000, 82-80-042-02-0005-000, 82-80-042-02-0006-000, 82-80-042-02-0007-000, 82-80-042-02-0008-000, from RC, Regional Center District, to C-2, General Business District. The subject site is located on the northeast corner of Middlebelt and Wick Roads. Copies of the application are available for review at City Hall during regular business hours.



LOCATION MAP

All interested parties are encouraged to attend and will be given an opportunity to comment on said request. Written comments may be submitted until 12:00 noon, Monday, March 15, 2004, and should be addressed to Cynthia I. Lyon, AICP, City Planner, Economic Development Department, 11111 Wayne, Romulus, MI 48174-1485.

Linda R. Choate, CMC, City Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

Publish: February 26, 2004

CITY OF ROMULUS NOTICE 2004 BOARD OF REVIEW

To the taxpayers of the City of Romulus: The Board of Review will meet in the Romulus City Hall, (Lower Level) Community Room, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, MI 48174 on the following dates and times by APPOINTMENT ONLY for the purpose of reviewing the assessment roll.

Meeting dates are as follows:

	Residential
March 08, 2004:	9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. & 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
March 09, 2004:	2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. & 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

	Commercial/Industrial
March 10, 2004:	9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. & 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Tentative ratios and estimated multipliers are as follows:

Classification	Ratio	Multiplier
Commercial	50%	1.0000
Industrial	50%	1.0000
Residential	50%	1.0000
Developmental	50%	1.0000
Personal	50%	1.0000

Review is by appointment only

Residents and Non-Residents alike may appeal by (1) making an appointment to appear before the Board OR (2) in writing (personal appearance is not required). The Board of Review MUST receive all written appeals no later than March 10, 2004 at 2:00 p.m.

Property owners may appoint and authorize a representative to appear on their behalf. All Representatives or Agents MUST submit proof of authorization to act on behalf of the property owner as a prerequisite to appeal to the Board of Review.

To schedule an appointment, please call the City of Romulus, Department of Assessment at (734) 942-7520 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday

Publish: February 19, 2004
February 26, 2004
March 4, 2004

OBITS FROM PAGE 4

Among his survivors are his wife of more than 65 years, Irene (Robakiewicz) Bizek; children, Eugene J. (Virginia) Bizek of North Olmsted, MI, Joann B. Bizek

Among his survivors are his wife, Joyce (Yankee) Frazier; sons, Scott Frazier of Romulus, Mark (Mary) Frazier of Dearborn Heights, Shawn Frazier of Romulus and Brian (India) Frazier, also of Romulus; daughters, Brenda Monat and Michelle Frazier, both of Romulus; a brother, Chuck (Alice) Frazier of Kentucky; sisters, Dorothy Pac of Ohio, Eve (Tom)

Arrangements were entrusted to the Crane Funeral Home in Romulus.

PARTS LOCATION 898 S. MAIN ST. PLYMOUTH • 6 BLOCKS NORTH OF ANN ARBOR RD.

OPINION

The price isn't right

It's funny how a few hiccups in a plan can change the way we think about it.

Take, for instance, the long-running saga in Northville Township, where the State of Michigan has still been unsuccessful in unloading a prime piece of property.

The state rejected the latest round of bidders last week because they didn't meet some of the specifications outlined in the proposal package.

And so, once more, it's back to the marketing proposal.

Once upon a time, officials in Northville Township were pleased with the response from state officials, optimistic about the seemingly genuine desire of members of the Department of Management and Budget to work with the locals and ensure the property would be developed in a way that would benefit both entities.

Now, they're reluctant to even talk about another round of pre-bid discussions.

It's not because they won't take place; they will. One such meeting has already happened this week.

It's not because the township officials don't want to make their desires known – they've been more than up front about that, too, with the development of a Planned Urban Development (PUD) concept, a request for land for the school district and an extension of Winchester Road between Six Mile and Seven Mile roads.

It's because they don't want to raise any expectations about what the results of these meetings are.

Slowly, comments like "We're optimistic," have been replaced by a more resigned, "We'll see," as state officials have apparently ignored a crucial part of the equation – they're asking too much for the land.

If they really want to sell the property, make the locals happy and provide the groundwork for a development that will enhance Northville Township and the state overall, they'll rethink the desire to get \$65 million for the land.

Yes, it's in Northville Township, one of the most sought-after locations for builders and citizens alike. Yes, it's a pretty parcel, with rolling hills, big trees and all that and yes, it's big, topping out at more than 420 acres.

But there are untold problems with the development of the site that make it difficult – and more expensive – on which to build. The township and potential developers have no choice but to deal with these problems. The State of Michigan should, too.

Extra icing on the cake

Wayne County Commissioner John Sullivan could hardly ask for a better start to his re-election campaign than the procurement of an additional \$300,000 for park projects in the City of Wayne.

It's something that even surprised officials in his hometown – they were hoping for \$300,000, total.

Sullivan, chair of the county committee on public services, was actually quick to discount his contribution, pointing out county allocations for other projects spread throughout Metro Detroit and the suburbs.

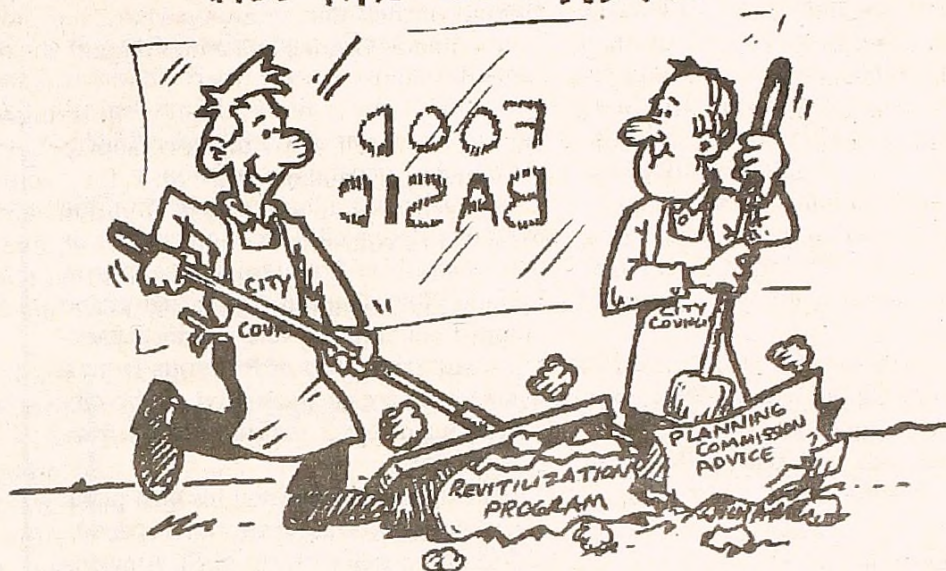
"It's pretty evenly spread out," he said.

Maybe so, but the additional money will be a big help to the City of Wayne, which is still recovering from a tight budget cycle that has all but forestalled many improvement projects during the past two years. The city isn't out of the proverbial woods yet, but the trees are getting more sparse.

In fact, the budget situation for Wayne is similar to that of many

See **Icing**, page 7

MAYBE THE PLACE WILL LOOK
BETTER AFTER WE SWEEP ASIDE
ALL THIS CLUTTER!



Color me disappointed

"OK, maybe it's not that bad."

The observation started to surface virtually as soon as workers at the Food Basics store started to put up the lime – er, moss – green paint on the eastern elevation of the discount supermarket.

The color it replaced, the weather-beaten brown that nobody had a name for (other than weather-beaten brown), was certainly no eye-pleaser. And the new green, well, it's not that bad, people said.

I know, I suppose I should stop harping about this because the issue is over and done. It's been that way for a while now, probably as soon as the decision was made to close the Farmer Jack's and reopen it as Food Basics.

When it reached the city council last Tuesday, they hardly put up much of an objection.

After all, it's not that bad.

To be fair, approving the change was their only legal option because it fits the use for which the site is zoned. Most of the work, in fact, will take place inside, other than the lime – er, moss – green paint job.

I'm still disappointed with the way the council handled the situation, though. The fact that Farmer Jack's and Food Basics were basically guaranteed an approval doesn't mean that the city had to turn the whole discussion into a love fest. A negative vote or two, as long as it didn't change the outcome of the issue, would have shown the representatives from the food store that the city was serious when they were concerned about their city,

and revitalization. The unanimous vote makes me wonder:

The grocer representatives showed up in force, with a smooth-talking public relations person who introduced the rest of their team – which this time included two high-priced lawyers.

They didn't need to bring the lawyers, though, because the issue was decided before the meeting started. In fact, it wouldn't surprise me if anything they said that night didn't turn out to be mere lip service. After all, why make promises that you're not legally bound to keep?

The green isn't that bad.

But the representatives could have felt confident just giving up that lip service, because they knew they already had an approval vote from the council in the bag. They probably knew it when two members of the council, Donna McEachern and Susan Rowe, took separate site visits to a relatively new store in Windsor, and ended up doing some shopping there. Mayor Al Haidous went on site visits, too, and said he was impressed.

Councilman Don Hartford managed to get at least a potential concession from the firm, to work on the color of the weather-beaten panel facing Michigan Avenue, the side more non-residents will see. That may come back to haunt the city, though, because it could ensure a different shade of green on that side to contrast with the lime – er, moss – green on the front and the weather-beaten brown on the rest of the building. City Planner Matt Miller is trying to solve that

problem, though, and I wish him Godspeed.

It begs the question, though, if they can change the color of one panel, why not all of them?

Others say that it will keep a business – and jobs – in Wayne and, well, it's not that bad.

Yes, it's not a vacant building and yes, it will keep jobs in Wayne. The representatives from the store said they hoped people who lived in the city would apply for the jobs at the new store. They seemed proud that it was a union operation, even though they admitted that during recent union negotiations, workers agreed to a 5-percent pay cut to help the corporation make ends meet. Management and administration just got a pay freeze.

So great, here's another opportunity for Wayne citizens to take a job and be underemployed. That doesn't sound like a victory to the union or the city, either. We're trying to bring in more young professionals to live in the city, remember? We're trying to take the city up a notch, not perpetuate some of the things that brought about the current city image.

But hey, jobs are jobs, and maybe the jobs don't sound that bad.

Who knows, maybe that recurring mantra will be the theme of the new store. In fact some people in the Cool Cities Task Force suggested coming up a new motto for the city.

How about: "The City of Wayne: It's not that bad."

Close
to the
Edge

by Scott Spielman

LETTERS

Resident thanks councilwoman

To the editor:

Recently, I have been attending the Romulus Planning Commission meetings. There is an issue that directly affects my neighborhood, as I know it (the Superior Estates 18-unit condominium development.)

I personally believe it threatens the rural character that I have grown to love.

At one of the meetings I happened to arrive a little late – being a working mom, there just aren't enough hours in the day. So as not to disrupt the meeting, I found a seat in the very back row, next to Councilwoman Debbie

Romak. Being a newcomer to the meetings, I had a lot of questions and wanted to know exactly what were the functions of the commission. How much authority and power do they have? Who are they accountable to in their decision-making? Who appoints

See **Letters**, page 7

JOURNAL

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Don't be held hostage by unhappiness

Watching a young Fort Benning wife being interviewed, I cringed when she told how guilty she felt after talking to her Army husband in Iraq.

She'd told him how hard life was without him. He in turn, said to her that at least she was not missing the children growing up.

Good God, I thought, so much guilt. A heavy price for both because of old pictures painted for each.

The incident reminded me of an oval picture of my mom as a child.

Mom is standing, holding a bouquet of flowers in her right hand while her left arm rests on a short table covered with velvet. She is wearing a white, very pretty lace dress. A locket hangs from her neck.

It is a lovely picture except for one thing. Mom is frowning. The photograph tells the story of an unhappy, frightened little girl.

I turned the picture over and written in pencil was the word "Ma".

Why, that's not my mother, I thought, she hated the word "Ma".

I started to put the picture down and as I did it angled and I noticed more writing, in ink. Black ink on black, it read, "Gerrie Catherine Bagnell Belt." To the side of the names Bagnell and Belt, she had written, "Real parents."

Below Bagnell and Belt are the names, "Mehrstadt Kitzman Stanecki." All pieces of the puzzle that formed mothers "old pictures."

She was a pure and beautiful child who had come into this world with glowing joy in her heart—a joy that quickly faded by being unwanted and cast aside.

Abandoned by her birth mother, she was taken in by foster parents. As life goes, the woman who adopted her died, and her husband was unable to care for Mom. Again, she was abandoned.

The emotional imprints were devastating and lasted to her grave. As a result, along with the

love Mom gave her children, she also gave them lack of trust, a great fear of abandonment and an absolute need to control. And, she taught me impending doom—a constant fear that all would end badly and I would be alone. It was perhaps her most demanding demon and she'd given it to me.

I grew up trying to make my mother happy believing that if I did not, I, too, would be abandoned. I didn't understand that in a child's mind, abandonment meant amplified fear of death. After all, how could a child take care of a child?

Dad was a hard-working pharmacist who put in long hours. My brother and sister were a lot older, so it was pretty much me and pretty much me at home. So many times I felt terrible that Mom was so unhappy. Interesting, isn't it, that the word "terrible," is a lot like "terror?"

I grew up not knowing how to care for myself. My old pictures told me to make others happy. If I

did, they'd make me happy. That belief brought a lot of pain until I learned new healthy pictures and how to take care of me first.

Today, others don't have to love me for me to feel safe. I learned how to heal the hole in my soul. And, it's wonderful to be genuinely happy most of the time.

I wonder, if that young military wife would have said something like, "We're fine, love you and know you're doing a great job." And, if he would have said, "It must be difficult for you, but I know you're the woman for the job. I'll be back soon." Would they both be feeling guilty?

How about you? Do you relate to this story? Is it time to learn how to take care of you?

To order Jerry's latest book, *Life is a Joke and God Wrote it!* (\$19.50



Letters

FROM PAGE 6

them and for how long? I posed many questions to her; she patiently walked me through the meeting and answered every question in a whispered voice.

I left the meeting with a broader knowledge and a much

better understanding of the functions of the planning commission and the very important they play in the process of the City of Romulus.

I would like to thank her for her patience and the time she took in helping me to better understand an issue that directly affects my neighborhood and threatens the rural character I have grown to love and want to

protect.

My family and so many others only hope the planning commission will make their decision in the best interest of the neighborhood and not the developer who refuses to address the real issue of density by camouflaging it with larger setbacks and landscaping.

Lanah J. Harris,
Romulus

Send us your letters

The Journal welcomes all signed letters to the editor and will consider all submissions for publication. Mail letters to: The Journal, P.O. Box 701422, Plymouth, Mich 48170. Letters may be edited for content or space and must include a phone number for verification of identity.

Icing

FROM PAGE 6

communities throughout the state, and within Sullivan's district. In short, there's probably a long line of municipalities that would have liked the additional funds.

Since we're quick to point out what we think our elected officials did wrong, it's only fair that we turn around and give a pat on the back every once in awhile. The Attwood Park project represents quite a coup for the city – it will take down a liability-filled sledding hill (which some will

admittedly miss) and provide features that aren't well-served in the community.

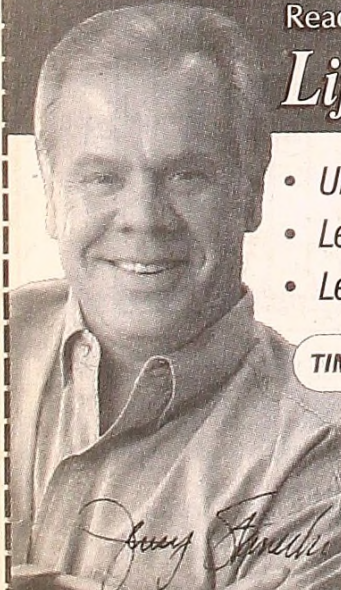
If the fact that the city won't have to contribute any money to the project can fall under the old cliché of icing on the cake, then the fact that there will likely be \$100,000 left over for other park projects must fall under the category of chocolate sprinkles.

That money will go a long way to freeing up other funds for the city and help make the budget process a little smoother, a little friendlier and a little better for the City of Wayne.

It's a good place to be in, for the city and Sullivan both.

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Celebration

Local woman marks 100th birthday with family, friends

Theresa Wherrett
Staff Writer

Thelma Headley has seen a lot of changes in her life.

Born on Feb. 24, 1904, to George and Millie Walker of Arkansas, Headley remembers a home with few modern conveniences.

"We had a wood-burning stove and a well outside," said Headley. "We had to cart the water inside. We had an outside toilet."

Of all the inventions she has seen over the past century, Headley is un-sure which is the best. "There have been so many surprises," she said. "Electric lights, plumbing, heating, cars."

Headley celebrated her 100th birthday surrounded by her family last Sunday. She is the proud matriarch of a family that includes one daughter, four grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren, two great-great-grandchildren, one step-daughter, three step-grandchildren, two step-great-grandchildren and five step-great-great-grandchildren. Relatives came from as far away as Wales.

Headley, however, appeared to be unfazed by all the hoopla.

"I'm not really that excited," she professed.

Headley has been a part of the Wayne/Westland community for nearly seven decades, having moved to a home on Newburgh in 1936 with her first husband,

Radford Ray. Together with Ray, Headley owned and operated a grocery store and several restaurants, including the Princess Café, Ray's Drive-In and the City Hall Café in Dearborn.

"My mother was the first person to bring pizza into Westland," said Headley's 77-year-old daughter, Jean Boyd. "It was a big hangout for teens in the 1950s. They used to make the pizza from scratch and then throw it up into the air. People used to sit in their cars and watch them make pizza."

After her husband died in 1959, Headley operated the drive-in for a few years before she sold it. She then worked in the cafeteria for Wayne-Westland schools and also worked at the General Motors Plant on Van Born Road. Thirteen years

after the death of her first husband, Headley married Floyd Headley. That marriage lasted until his death in 1999.

The twice-widowed Headley has survived many other losses, including the deaths of all four of her sisters, a step-son-in-law, a grand-son-in-law, two nieces, two nephews, a step-grandson, and all of her close friends and acquaintances, according to Boyd. Headley also lost both her parents at an early age. Both her mother and her father died at age 34, leaving Headley an orphan at age 13.

Shuttled between relatives in Arkansas,

See Birthday, page 9

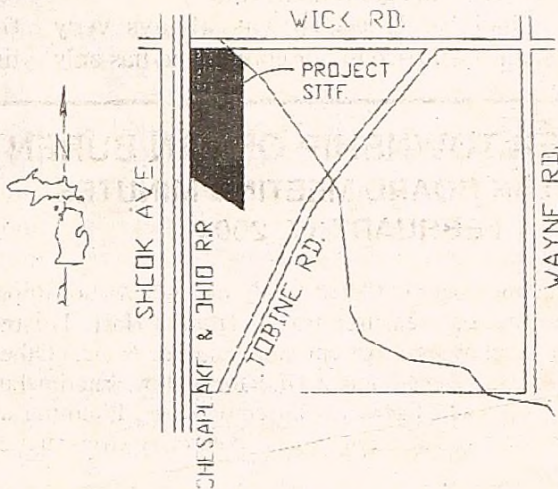
"We had a wood-burning stove and a well outside. We had to cart the water inside. We had an outside toilet."

Thelma Headley

CITY OF ROMULUS PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to Michigan Public Act 207 of 1921, as amended (The City and Village Zoning Act), notice is hereby given that the City of Romulus will hold a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 15, 2004, for the purpose of considering a request to permit a cul-de-sac road length in excess of 900 feet. The Subdivision Regulations only permit a maximum road length no greater than 600 feet. The public hearing will be held at the Romulus City Hall Council Chambers, 11111 Wayne, Romulus, MI 48174-1485.

The petitioner desires to construct a 21-unit single-family site condominium development on 9.07± acres with a cul-de-sac length in excess of 900 feet. The development is located on the south side of Wick Road between Wayne and Shook Roads, DP# 82-80-066-99-0006-000. Copies of the application are available for review at City Hall during regular business hours.



LOCATION MAP

All interested parties are encouraged to attend and will be given an opportunity to comment on said request. Written comments may be submitted until 12:00 noon, Monday, March 15, 2004, and should be addressed to Cynthia I. Lyon, AICP, City Planner, Economic Development Department, 11111 Wayne, Romulus, MI 48174-1485.

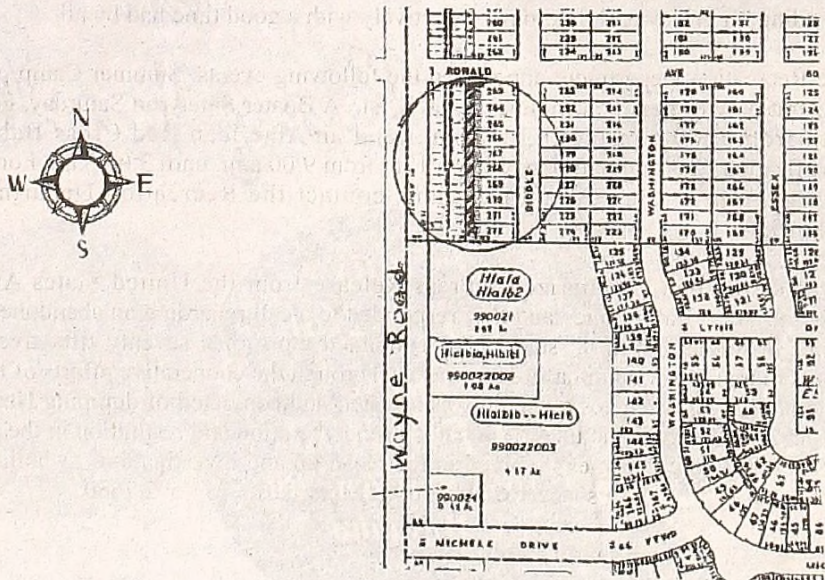
Linda R. Choate, CMC, City Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

Publish: February 26, 2004

NOTICE CITY OF ROMULUS STREET & ALLEY VACATION

Notice is hereby given, that the City Council of the City of Romulus, has scheduled a Public Hearing to be held in the Romulus City Hall Council Chambers, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174 on Monday, March 8, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of taking testimony on the proposed vacation of the twenty-foot (20 ft) wide alley that separates Lots 1- 14 from lots 266-272 located within the Key Manor Apartment complex as follows:

Vacate the section of the twenty-foot (20ft) wide alley that separates Lots 1-14 from lots 266-272 located within the Key Manor Apartment



Written comments may be submitted to the attention of Linda R. Choate, CMC, City Clerk, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174-1485, no later than 12:00 o'clock noon, Monday March 8, 2003.

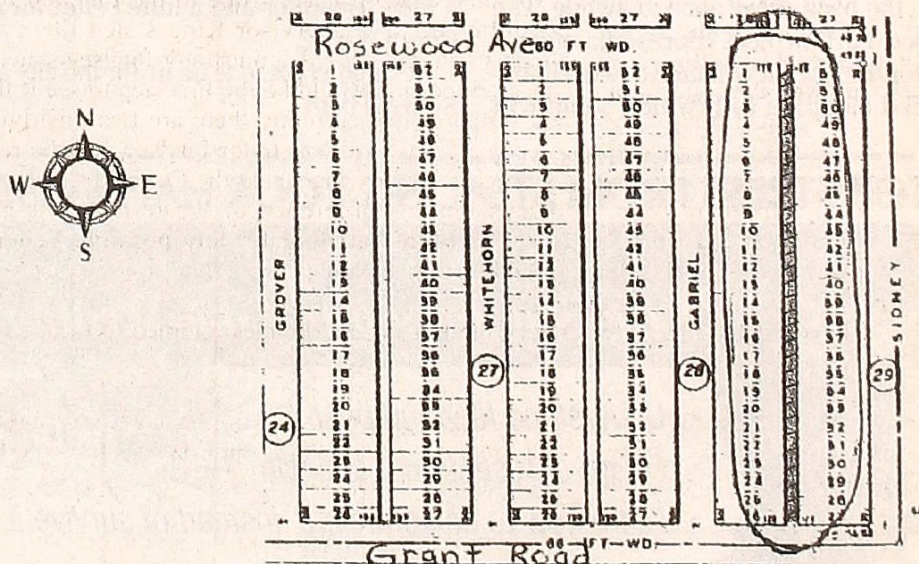
Linda R. Choate, CMC, Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

Publish: February 19, 2004
February 26, 2004

NOTICE CITY OF ROMULUS STREET & ALLEY VACATION

Notice is hereby given, that the City Council of the City of Romulus, has scheduled a Public Hearing to be held in the Romulus City Hall Council Chambers, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174 on Monday, March 8, 2004 at 6:45 p.m. for the purpose of taking testimony on the proposed vacation of the entire north-south alley in the Junction Subdivision, Block 29 between Rosewood and Grant abutting Lots 1 through 52 inclusive located as follows:

Vacate the entire north-south alley in the Junction Subdivision Block 29 abutting Lots 1 through 52 inclusive.



Written comments may be submitted to the attention of Linda R. Choate, CMC, City Clerk, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174-1485, no later than 12:00 o'clock noon, Monday, March 8, 2003.

Linda R. Choate, CMC, Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

Publish: February 19, 2004
February 26, 2004

Birthday

FROM PAGE 8

Headley had to work picking cotton and performing other chores. She tried to keep up with her studies during this time, and graduated the eighth grade at age 21 or 22.

“She was always working, really from the age of 13,” said Boyd. “She has no patience for people who don’t work.”

Headley met Radford Ray through one of her sisters, after he offered her his coat during a rainstorm. He came to Detroit looking for work and when he had saved enough money, he sent a

ticket to her so she could join him. The two were married in 1926 at Detroit City Hall. In 1927, they had their only child, Jean.

In 1950, the couple built their home on 3 acres at Palmer Road and John Hix. At the time, there was not much development in the area.

“It was just our house and the neighbor’s house on the corner,” said Boyd. “There used to be a pig farm across the street. We could look out our window and watch the pigs.”

Headley used her 3 acres to grow flowers, according to Boyd. People would stop and admire her garden, she said.

Headley was always very active in her church and has only

recently stopped attending services. She used to cook for church dinners and traveled with friends.

Headley is still living in her house on Palmer. Boyd has moved in to help care for her. Headley moves around well, although she uses a walker and has some trouble hearing.

For those wishing to follow in Headley’s centenarian footsteps, she had a few words of advice.

“Live right. Eat right. No smoking, no drinking and go to church,” she counseled.

She also acknowledged that it isn’t easy to live to be 100.

“There are a lot of trials,” she said. “It’s a lot of hard work. But there are also a lot of good times.”



Thelma Headley

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 17, 2004

Supervisor King called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor King, Clerk Payne, Treasurer Budd, Trustee Hart, Trustee Herman, Trustee Jahr and Trustee Rochowiak. Absent and excused: None. Others in attendance: Planning and Economic Development Director Kelley, Interim Public Safety Director Smolen, Recreation and Facilities Director Ross, Planning and Zoning Administrator Pugsley, Executive Assistant Ireland, Secretary Cline and an audience of six (6).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Payne moved, Budd seconded to approve the agenda with the following amendment: Under “New Business” remove Item # 4 “Consider request to split and combine parcels V125-83-101-01-0007-000 (lot 7, Moore Bros. Subdivision) and V125-83-101-01-0008-301 (lot 8 except the northerly part measuring 64.56 ft. on westerly lot line and 160 ft. on easterly lot line Moore Bros. Subdivision).” Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: Jahr moved, Rochowiak seconded to open the public hearing to present and discuss possible projects for the fiscal year 2004-2005 Community Development Block Grant Program. Carried.

Supervisor King opened the public hearing and went to Planning and Zoning Administrator Pugsley for an explanation. Administrator Pugsley stated this is the second of two public hearings regarding the fiscal year 2004-2005 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. Administrator Pugsley stated the three national objectives for projects are: to benefit low/moderate income persons, prevent or eliminate slum and/or blight and to meet urgent community needs. The list of proposed projects to be funded are: \$25,500 for Youth Services (camp programs for low/moderate income families); \$54,800 for Senior Services (Senior Activities Garden, Senior Center Administrator and furniture/equipment replacement); \$30,000 for Code Enforcement; \$13,700 for Planning (Parks and Recreation Master Plan and neighborhood survey); and \$13,700 for Program Administration. The planning and administration maximum is ten percent of the total allocation. The total funding for the fiscal year 2004-2005 is \$137,700. The final application to the Wayne County Community Block Grant Office must be submitted by March 5, 2004. Residents may submit ideas for possible projects to the Developmental Services Department up to a week prior to the deadline. A final public notice will be published in April with a list of the projects to be funded.

Trustee Jahr asked Administrator Pugsley if any additional public comments were received since the first public hearing. Administrator Pugsley stated no public comments had been received.

A resident asked if the removal of some dead Ash trees (due to the Emerald Ash Borer) from private property would qualify? Supervisor King stated there are requirements as to how CDBG funds are distributed. Administrator Pugsley stated a meeting with the resident of the specific location would be the first step to see if this would be a qualifying project and further stated currently there are two qualifying areas in the township eligible to receive funds. Administrator Pugsley and the resident will meet to review these areas. Supervisor King stated the Emerald Ash Borer has been a frequent topic of discussion at Conference of Western Wayne and Environmental Director Swallow has been watching for any possible Federal Funding; however, at this time no funding is available.

Clerk Payne stated these are some of the last Federal monies returned to local communities.

Supervisor King stated Administrator Pugsley is responsible for the day to day administration of the CDBG program and Treasurer Budd is the board representative to the CDBG Advisory Council and has served on the Executive Board.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made to close the public hearing.

Jahr moved, Hart seconded to close the public hearing. Carried.

MINUTES: Rochowiak moved, Hart seconded to approve the Work Study Session Minutes of February 2, 2004 as presented. Carried.

Hart moved, Rochowiak seconded to approve the Closed Session Minutes of February 2, 2004. Carried.

Budd moved, Payne seconded to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of February 3, 2004 as presented. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Supervisor King read the State of the Township into the record.

Letters in support of Detroit Water and Sewer Department (DWSD) rate study and rate freeze from Supervisor King and State Senator Toy voicing concerns about the rates charged by the DWSD.

Supervisor King announced Wade-Trim the township engineering consultant has achieved ISO 9001-2000 certification.

An email from Officer Bidwell announcing a Charity Ice Hockey Game between the Van Buren Police Officials Association and the Flyers on February 20th at 8:00 p.m. The event will be held at the Arctic Edge Ice Arena with proceeds benefiting both organizations.

A letter from the Canton Director of Public Safety to Director Smolen thanking the Van Buren Police Department for their assistance.

A letter of thanks from the Michigan Recreation and Park Association to Director Smolen for allowing Officer Schroeder to teach an educational session at the 2004 MRPA Annual Conference and Trade Show.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Rochowiak moved, Payne seconded to approve projects for Community Development Block Grant funding for the fiscal year 2004 – 2005 in the amount of \$137,700. Carried.

Budd moved, Jahr seconded to approve the bid documents for the 2004 Lawn Cutting and Maintenance as recommended by the Recreation and Facilities Director. Carried.

Payne moved, Jahr seconded to approve the reappointments of Joy Ann Ferris, Ken Askew, Beverly Jenkins, Loretta Speaks, Keith Johnston and Bob Thorne to the Recreation Committee with terms to expire February 28, 2005. Carried.

VOUCHER LIST: Budd moved, Herman seconded to approve the February 17, 2004 voucher list as presented. Carried.

REPORTS: Supervisor King ordered the January 2004 Public Safety Report received and filed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The Drive-In Dog Clinic will be held on Saturday, May 1, 2004 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Water and Sewer building located behind township hall.

Director Ross stated the Daddy Daughter Dance was well attended with 175 and 166 attending on Friday and Saturday respectively with a good time had by all.

The Recreation Department announced the following events: Summer Camp program registration will begin on Monday, March 1st. A Boater Safety on Saturday, February 28th from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.; and an American Red Cross Babysitter Certification Class on Saturday, March 13th from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. For further information on classes and programs contact the Recreation Department at 734.699.8921.

Director Smolen summarized a Press Release from the United States Attorney General. Van Buren Police and Fire responded to a call regarding an abandoned semi-trailer in August of 1998; said trailer contained more than seventy fifty-five gallon drums thought to contain hazardous waste. Through the cooperative efforts of Federal, State and Local Agencies a person was arrested and convicted of dumping Hazardous Waste. The sentence includes 37 months of incarceration and restitution in the amount of \$84,000 to the agencies involved in the clean up and investigation. A hotline telephone number to report suspected Hazardous Materials is 734.692.7650.

AUDIENCE (Non-Agenda Items): None.

CLOSED SESSION: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Herman moved, Payne seconded to adjourn at 8:52 p.m. Carried.

Joannie D. Payne, CMC
Township Clerk

Cindy C. King
Supervisor

Publish: February 26, 2004

THE SCENE

'Ssshake' rattle 'n roll

Local diner features nostalgia on the menu

Theresa Wherrett
Staff Writer

Diners looking for a taste of the good old days will find just what they are looking for in the retro style of the Central City Diner in Canton Township.

Located on Canton Center Road just north of Ford Road, the diner offers hamburgers and fries and handmade shakes, along with other family favorites like pork chops, steak and a selection of sandwiches, all served affordably in this one-of-a-kind restaurant.

The restaurant, built in 1997 to mimic mid-century diners, is a feast not only for the taste buds but also for the eyes. The outside

is gleaming silver, with rounded glass block windows at the corners. The inside is lined with fire-engine red vinyl booths, chrome chairs and a black and white tile floor. Inside, it seems like time has slipped backward 60 years.

"We get a lot of grandparents in here with their grandkids," said owner Sandra Allman. "It's like a history lesson."

Allman bought out the previous owners about a year ago with dreams of operating her own restaurant. Previously employed as an office manager, she said she "got gutsy and took the plunge."

During the past year, she has tried to make improvements to the menu.



Sandra Allman, owner of Central City Diner in Canton Township, said she's made several improvements to the restaurant she bought about a year ago.

"We are more home-style," Allman said. "We make our own meat sauce. We never freeze our hamburger. Sometimes people order a shake and they think we forgot the shake because it doesn't come right away. They think we use a shake machine, but we don't. Our shakes are hand-spindled."

Allman has a lot of leeway with her menu because it is exactly that — hers. Unlike

restaurant mega-chains, there is only one Central City Diner. By running an independent restaurant where food is made by hand, Allman may have recreated a more authentic 1950 diner than she knows.

The crowd is typically made up of families and couples, said Allman. On Wednesdays throughout the summer, a local classic car club meets at the diner.

"It's a lot of fun," said Allman.

"We put music outside and the waitresses wear poodle skirts."

The car club meets around 5 p.m. and the restaurant remains open to the public, according to Allman.

Central City Diner is open seven days a week, Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Carryout is available. It is located at 6600 N. Canton Center Road.

Welcome to Mooseport is slightly off 'tracks'

It's hard to keep track of all the different formulas taking place in *Welcome to Mooseport*, which opened Friday.

The movie, about the most popular ex-president in history moving into a small town in Maine and finding himself running for mayor a day later, doesn't quite find the right formula for success, though.

Gene Hackman plays Monroe 'The Eagle' Cole, the aforementioned beloved president. Because his ex-wife took the big house in Baltimore, he's forced to move into the summer home in Mooseport, Maine, and arrives with all the pomp and circumstance an invested president would receive. The banner headline on the local paper — The Moose Call — reads: The Eagle has Landed.

Indeed he has. He's landed with a gaggle of secret service agents, whose primary duty seems to be hiding in the woods to provide a 'lucky bounce' for the errant golf balls that careen widely off the end of the ex-president's clubs. He arrives with his advisory staff, who start out the movie listing all the millions he will make on the lecture circuit and in book deals.

And he arrives just in time, too, because the beloved mayor of Mooseport, a man who has served more than 20 years in that ceremonial office, has just died, leaving a vacancy and no one to claim it.

A group of civic-minded residents approach Cole before he

even has a chance to move into his home and ask him to serve as mayor. Cole is unmoved by the group, which includes a few standards from the Hollywood local-yokel file: there's an overly enthusiastic man with a shrill

voice and a bow-tie, another elderly man who shouts everything.

It takes the interest of another local, Sally Mannis, played by Maura Tierney, most widely known for her role on television's

E.R., to persuade him to take up the office.

That's when things are supposed to get interesting, because Mannis also happens to be the girlfriend of Harry 'Handy' Harrison, who owns the local

hardware store and doubles as a plumber. Harrison, played by Ray Romano, enters the mayoral race because he wants to help out the town — he didn't know

See **Moose**, page 11



Ex-U.S. President Cole (Gene Hackman, right) speaks to veterinarian Sally (Maura Tierney), much to the consternation of Sally's boyfriend, Handy (Ray Romano).

Students pay tribute to Dr. Seuss

Meghan Chatham
Staff Writer

Northville students will honor a literary icon Tuesday, as they celebrate the anniversary of the 100th birthday of Theodor Seuss Geisel, better known as Dr. Seuss.

When Geisel wrote his first children's book, *And to Think That I Saw It on Mulberry Street*, the critics were less than impressed. In fact, according to the Dr. Seuss National Memorial in Springfield, MA, the book was rejected by 25 different publishers before finding a company willing to print it. The seemingly dismal beginning of his children's literature career didn't deter Geisel, who proceeded to create more than 40 best-selling and award-winning children's books, including *The Cat in the Hat*, *Green Eggs and Ham*, and

The principal (Nancy Raynes) will be dressing up as the Cat in the Hat, and reading to all of the grade levels.

Horton Hears A Who, before his death in 1991.

Several local elementary schools plan to celebrate Geisel's birthday as part of their annual March is Reading Month event. While reading Dr. Seuss stories and dressing in the telltale red-and-white striped hat are common responses, some schools are taking the celebration a step further.

Silver Springs Elementary has a big day planned. A Seuss book will be read during the morning announcements, and

students are encouraged to dress up like a favorite Seuss character.

The students and staff will sing Happy Birthday over the public address system and enjoy birthday cupcakes at about 3 p.m. In addition, teachers have a variety of Dr. Seuss related games and activities available to them if they are interested.

Amerman Elementary students will celebrate with cupcakes and readings of Seuss books by special visitors. In addition, throughout the month, each

grade level will be creating window displays based on a different Seuss book.

Wondergarten students at Thornton Creek Elementary will have a busy day.

"We're going to be making green eggs and ham," said wondergarten teacher Kathy Goll.

The students will also have the chance to make their own striped hat and listen to Seuss stories being read.

At Ridge Wood Elementary, the action will start begin with a special reading on March 1.

"The principal (Nancy Raynes) will be dressing up as the *Cat in the Hat*, and reading to all of the grade levels," said Heather Bauer, learning consultant for Ridge Wood Elementary.

March 2, the Ridge Wood kindergarten classes will enjoy treats and readings from Geisel's books.

her mind. There's also a bit where Cole's attempted move on Mannis is caught by a crowd of international news media: after the first date, he wants a kiss and she wants a handshake. The end result is shown on CNN, where analysts break it down frame by frame, with the help of circles and diagrams.

All together, though, the good scenes are few and far between, and the movie suffers during the dry spots.

Moose

FROM PAGE 10

Cole entered it so he thought it would be uncontested.

Suddenly, Cole is in trouble. He's in an electoral race with a popular local in a town so quaint that everyone says hello to everyone they see, and where a man can jog naked down the middle of the street without attracting

any attention other than that paid to his new socks.

And the story is leaked to the national news media.


The concept here is a good one, a different take on the David vs. Goliath cliché that has run through just about any other possibility. Cole's advisors are not sure how to run a campaign in a small town, a town so innocent that typical larger-level campaign strategies are ineffective. And they're in a no-win situation: win


and it looks like Cole has 'squashed a bug,' as he puts it. Lose, and the most popular ex-president in history was beaten by a man who fixes toilets – all those book deals suddenly vanish and the Monroe Cole library keeps shrinking in size.


There are things to like about the film, such as Rip Torn, who plays a high-profile campaign manager and June Squibb, who plays an elderly worker at the store who isn't afraid to speak


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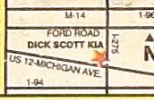
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Ernie Harwell

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Friendly advice on staying healthy.

Look for Ernie's new column on healthier living each week in this newspaper.

For easy-to-follow advice on staying healthy, look for "Take It From Ernie." It's a new column sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan with words of wisdom from Hall of Fame broadcaster Ernie Harwell.

Each week, Ernie will highlight simple steps we can all take to improve our health and our quality of life. You'll find entertaining information on the benefits of walking, the value of using less expensive generic drugs and simple ways to stay healthy and fit. And nobody's a better example than Ernie himself, Blue Cross Blue Shield's Health and Fitness Advocate, who makes healthy choices and exercises every day at 86 years of age.

So read "Take It From Ernie," and as Ernie says, "Take care of your health before it's lonngggg gone."

The truth about regular physical activity – at any age.

By Ernie Harwell



While it's not uncommon for some adults to think they're either too old or too frail to exercise, nothing could be further from the truth. Regular physical activity brings health benefits and greater well-being at any age.

Regular physical activity helps improve muscle strength, stamina, balance, joint mobility, flexibility, agility, overall physical coordination, metabolism, blood pressure, weight control, even the treatment and prevention of heart disease. It also helps slow bone loss and lowers the risk of developing adult onset diabetes. It even improves your mood.

Of course, I recommend three simple rules for regular physical activity in life's later innings: Have a physician on your team, take a lot of intentional walks and remember that, as Yogi Berra is fond of saying, "It ain't over 'til it's over."

And please remember to take care of your health before it's lonngggg gone!

Ernie Harwell, "the voice of the Detroit Tigers" for more than four decades, retired after 54 years behind a major league microphone. Today, at age 86, Ernie's days are filled with serving as a health and fitness advocate for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, public appearances, writing, traveling and taking long walks with "Miss Lulu," his wife of more than 60 years. His latest book, a collection of his baseball columns entitled "Life After Baseball," is available in bookstores beginning April 2004.



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01. Obituaries
02. In Memoriam
03. Cards of Thanks
04. Monuments
 &/w Cemetery Plots
05. Personals
06. Legal Notices
07. Attorneys
08. Entertainment
09. Lost & Found
10. Coming Events
31. Help Wanted Sales

32. Help Wanted
33. Child Care
34. Specialized Services
35. Situations Wanted
40. Business Opportunity
42. Pawn Shops
43. Money to Loan
44. Music Lessons
45. Art Lessons
46. Private Instruction
47. Schools
50. Pets & Supplies

54. Poultry - Livestock
55. Farm Equipment/Supplies
56. Animal Feed
57. Antiques
58. Flea Markets
59. Auctions
60. Misc. Sales
61. Misc. Items
62. Building Supplies
63. Business with Office & Equipment
64. Lawn & Garden Supplies

65. Tree Service
66. Fuel
67. Garden Plant / Supplies
68. Garden / Produce
70. Christmas Trees
72. Machinery Tools
73. Musical Merchandise
74. Sporting Goods
75. Boats / Accessories
76. Snowmobiles
77. Recreation Vehicles
78. Aircraft

82. Wanted to Buy
87. Room for Rent
88. Duplexes for Rent
89. Apartments for Rent
90. Condos for Rent
92. Business Places for Rent
93. Banquet Halls
94. Farm Land for Rent
95. Garages for Rent
97. Cottages for Rent
98. Mobile Homes for Rent
99. Mobile Home Lots for Rent

100. Will Share
101. Wanted to Rent
102. Storage
103. Business with Property
104. Farms with Acreage
105. Mobile Homes for Sale
106. Houses for Sale
107. Condos for Sale
108. Lake with Resort
109. Income with Property
110. Lots for Sale
111. Out of State Property

112. Commercial Lease
113. Real Estate Wanted
114. Auto Accessories
115. Autos for Sale
116. Antique & Classic Cars
117. Trucks & Vans for Sale
118. Handicapped Vehicles
119. Auto Repairs
120. Motorcycles
121. Autos Wanted

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March 15, 2004 at
11:00 a.m. at 425
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before Judge CHARLES
WM. JAMESON (p15435)
for the following
Purpose: On the
petition of Hazel
M. Edgar for the
appointment of
Hazel M. Edgar as
Full Guardian of
Madison Cooper

59. Auctions

AUTO AUCTION

CITY OF WESTLAND
NOTICE OF PUBLIC
AUCTION

On MARCH 2, 2004 the
Westland Police
Department will conduct
public auctions of
impounded, abandoned
vehicles. The first auction
will begin promptly at
10:00 a.m. at Westland
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JT2EL46B5N0244675
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2 Door- Tan
1GNCT18Z6K0136575
1994 Dodge Intrepid
4 Door- Gray
2B3ED56F4RH123622
1991 Ford Tempo
4 Door- Tan
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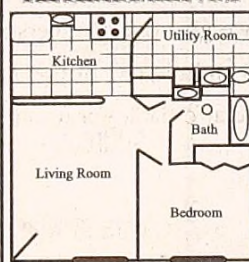
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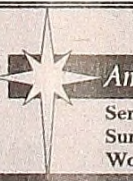
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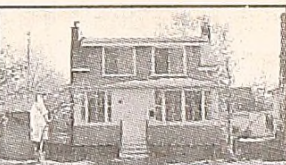
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SPORTS

Amateurs take to the ring at Rotary Fight Night

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

It wasn't Mohammed Ali versus Joe Fraser or Joe Lewis against Rocky Marciano.

It wasn't even the ear-gnawing excitement of Mike Tyson versus Evander Holyfield, but it was fun and entertaining night for the near 100 people that showed up for the first ever Canton Township Rotary Club Fight Night Friday at the Summit on the Park in Canton Township.

Although names of the amateur fighters such as Dominique Ramsey, Fred Flores, Marcus Johnson, Jason Tucker and Daryl Kneip are forgettable, as were most of their fights, they did help raise money for the Canton Rotary.

Most of the bouts were nothing more than teenage boys wailing away at each other and it wasn't until the last fight of the evening where the audience was riled by a single tooth-rattling blow that buckled Kneip's knees beneath him and sent blood flowing down his chin. Hasson Mansour delivered the knock-down punch but it wasn't enough for him to pull out the victory.

Kneip was solid in the first round and sent Mansour reeling to take an early advantage. In the second round, he sent Mansour to the mat. Referee 'Hurricane' Steve Daher gave him a standing eight count and

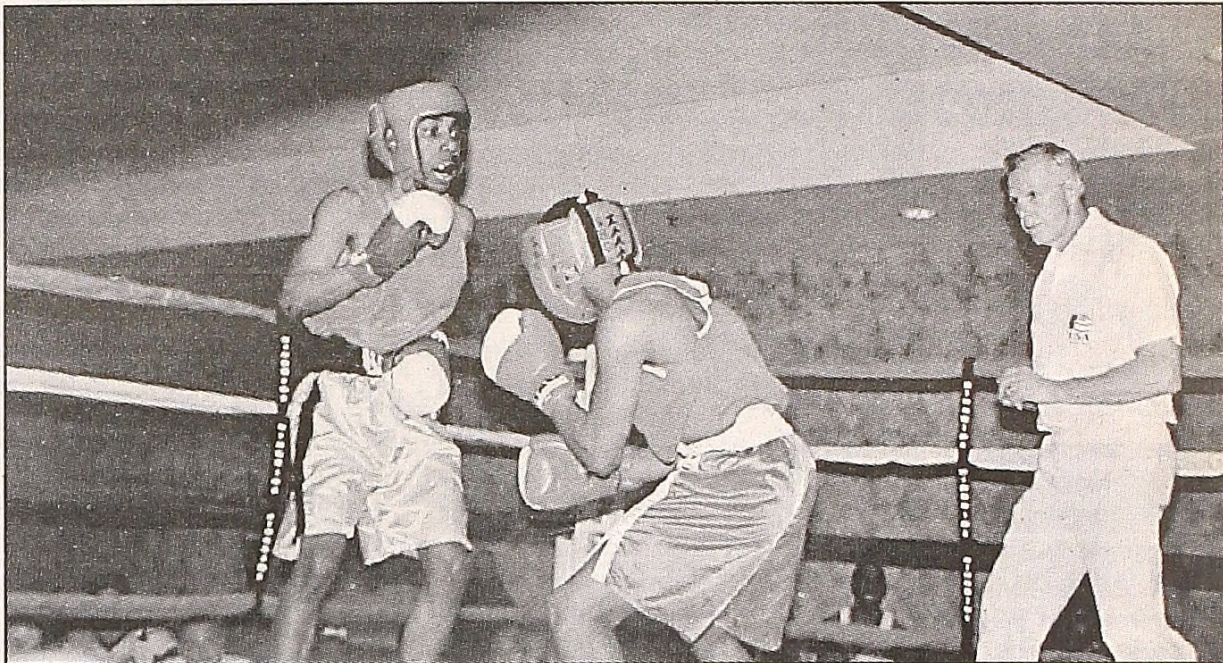
allowed the fight to continue. It was late in the third round when Mansour connected with his devastating left hook that dropped Kneip.

Kneip was quick to get back up with wobbly knees and a bloodied nose but he was able to finish the round. After winning the first five of the six minutes of the bout, his arm was raised as the winner of the 210-pound weight class by decision.

The other exciting match of the night was the rematch of Fred Flores and Rick Adrian (Yo, Adrian!) who were both National Champions at 125 pounds for their gym, Ringside. Flores had the advantage early in the first round when he sent a flurry of punches at Adrian's nose. Referee Marv McDonald called a medical timeout for the ringside doctor to check out the damage. He was cleared and the fight continued.

"Sock it to him," yelled audience members as the two boys continued in the second round. Adrian toughed it out and snuck a few solid punches past Flores late in the round. But it was in the third when Flores turned on the duck-and-weave defense and connected some quick combinations to finish the bout as the winner.

The first bout hosted Dominique Ramsey and Tobias Wiggins. The two duked it out for three 1:30 minute rounds with



Referee Marv McDonald (right) oversees Tobias Wiggins (left) and Dominique Ramsey in the first bout of the Canton Township Rotary Fight Night at the Summit on Friday night. Ramsey won the match by decision.

Ramsey pulling out the victory by decision.

Corey Wilson faced off against Marcus Johnson in the third bout, which only lasted one round. Wilson took a beating and went down early. Johnson connected with a giant punch the wobbled Wilson and caused McDonald to stop the fight. Johnson earned the first-round victory.

Bout number four went only two rounds before Daher stopped the fight. Jason 'Washing Machine' Tucker and Dwayne Stanley appeared to be evenly matched when they met at the center of the ring but Stanley fell early in the first round and ended up stuck in-between the ropes. The referee helped him up and let the fight continue.

"Washing machine," yelled

some of the audience members, which seemed to switch Tucker into spin cycle so he could wash out the competition.

His flood of punches sent Stanley down two more times in the second round, which resulted in standing-eight counts on both occasions. Daher stopped the fight once Stanley couldn't compete anymore. 'Washing Machine' was the clear winner.

Ramsey, Flores, Johnson, Tucker and Kneip weren't the only winners of the night. The money raised from tickets will contribute to Canton community needs through the Rotary Club.

Tickets didn't reach into the thousand-dollar range like ring-side tables that a Las Vegas card would draw in but \$60 per individual ticket or \$400 for a table of eight was supposed to raise

money for worthy causes but the first-ever event lost money.

"We're going to be licking our wounds over this one for a while," said Dr. Evan Farris, the fight doctor and rotary representative. "We have to figure out how to come back - it's a matter of promotion."

The Rotary Club wants to host more fight nights in the future with hopes to turn a profit.

If all goes well proceeds from future events will go toward the continuance of community services such as senior citizens bus, donations to the needy, scholarship programs, continuing efforts to eradicate polio world wide, fireman and policeman awards and the establishment of a clock at the Summit on the Park, according to the Rotary Club's edicts.

On the comeback trail, Canton Chiefs gear up for playoffs

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The Canton Chiefs hockey team is peaking at the right time of the season.

With only two more regular games left before heading into the playoffs, the Chiefs have won four of their last five games to get back on track in the second half

of the season.

"We're trying to go into the playoffs as hot as possible," said Canton coach Jim Wheaton. "We're trying to get as many wins as we can."

Their most recent victory came in the form of a 3-0 shutout against the Walled Lake Western Warriors Friday night. Canton Goalie Tony Hylko recorded the

shutout with 17 saves, but it was the offense that peppered Western goalie Justin Strole with 36 shots to earn the win.

"Our defense played pretty well and our offense was pretty good," Wheaton said. "But our power play wasn't scoring. Their goalie played well, he had some great saves. I have to give him a thumbs up."



Canton's Kyle Tollison (21) misses a chance to redirect the puck into Gibraltar Carlson's net. The puck slid wide of the net but Canton still outscored Carlson, 4-3, for the win.

Canton took a 1-0 lead in the first period. Reece McCabe intercepted a pass and made for a breakaway to score unassisted and short-handed.

The Chiefs essentially put the game away after the second period when they scored two more goals in the frame.

Garrett Hyman scored an unassisted goal to move the Chiefs to 2-0. Brett Baker finished the scoring off and put the game away, 3-0. Nick Leadford and Hyman earned the assists.

In the first game of the week, the Chiefs' Mike Stewart may have had the game of his life as he scored a hat trick to help his team triumph, 4-3, over Gibraltar Carlson on Wednesday, Feb. 18.

His first goal put Canton the board at the 7:53 mark of the first period. Stewart redirected the puck past the goalie off a shot by Brett Baker. Kyle Tollison earned the other assist on the play. Stewart flipped the puck past the glove-side of the goalie four minutes later to put the Chiefs up, 2-0. The goal was unassisted.

Matt Oliver was called for tripping with 2:44 left in the first to give Carlson a one-man advantage. Canton goalie Chris Garrett made some spectacular point-

blank saves to keep the score 2-0 for the Chiefs.

Oliver extended the lead, 3-0, at the 12:45 point in the second period. Pat Davison and Tollison recorded the assists.

Gibraltar bounced back when they caught Garrett out of the net and knocked the puck in to make it a 3-1 game. With Baker in the penalty box Carlson managed a power-play goal at 3:53 in the second to narrow the lead to one goal, 3-2.

The Chiefs opened the third period with Stewart's third goal off a power play at 14:32. Oliver and McCabe notched the assists on the score.

At the 10:57 mark of the third, Carlson shuffled the puck past Garrett for the third time to make it a 4-3 game.

Canton had a two-man advantage with six minutes left but couldn't score. With only 1:02 left in the game, Carlson pulled their goalie to get an extra shooter on the ice. McCabe was sent to the box, which allowed Gibraltar a 6-on-4 advantage for the remaining seconds of the game. At one point, Canton only had three sticks on the ice as Oliver broke his on an

See Chiefs, page 18

Sweet redemption

Eagles beat Tigers, 61-60

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Nate Oats was able to do something for the first time in his two years as head coach of the Romulus varsity basketball team – he defeated the Belleville Tigers.

It was the first time in seven meetings, spread out over four years, that the Eagles managed a victory against Belleville.

The nail-biter of a game came down to Kyle Wasson making a basket in the final seconds to put the Tigers away, 61-60.

Belleville was up 60-59 with just 20 seconds left to play. Romulus had possession of the ball, but turned it over.

Josh Samarco headed down the court on a break away but Romulus' star Ronald Coleman was in quick pursuit – and managed to knock down the shot.

Wasson picked up the ball, took it back down the court and scored off the transition to put Romulus back in the lead with three seconds left on the clock. The three ticks weren't enough for the Tigers to score and they were defeated, 61-60.

Coleman led the team with 16 points, 11 rebounds and four shots blocked. Wasson hit for nine, including the game-winner. A.J. Hall hit for eight points in the victory.

Tyler Jones led the Belleville side of the court with 14 points and eight rebounds while Matt Miller hit double digits with 12 points and grabbed six rebounds. Leon Freeman contributed with 10 points and nine rebounds, and Senior center Rob Igbawua led the team in rebounds with 12.

Romulus was off to a quick start in the first quarter when they outscored the Tigers, 16-7. Belleville battled back to come within six points at the half, 30-24.

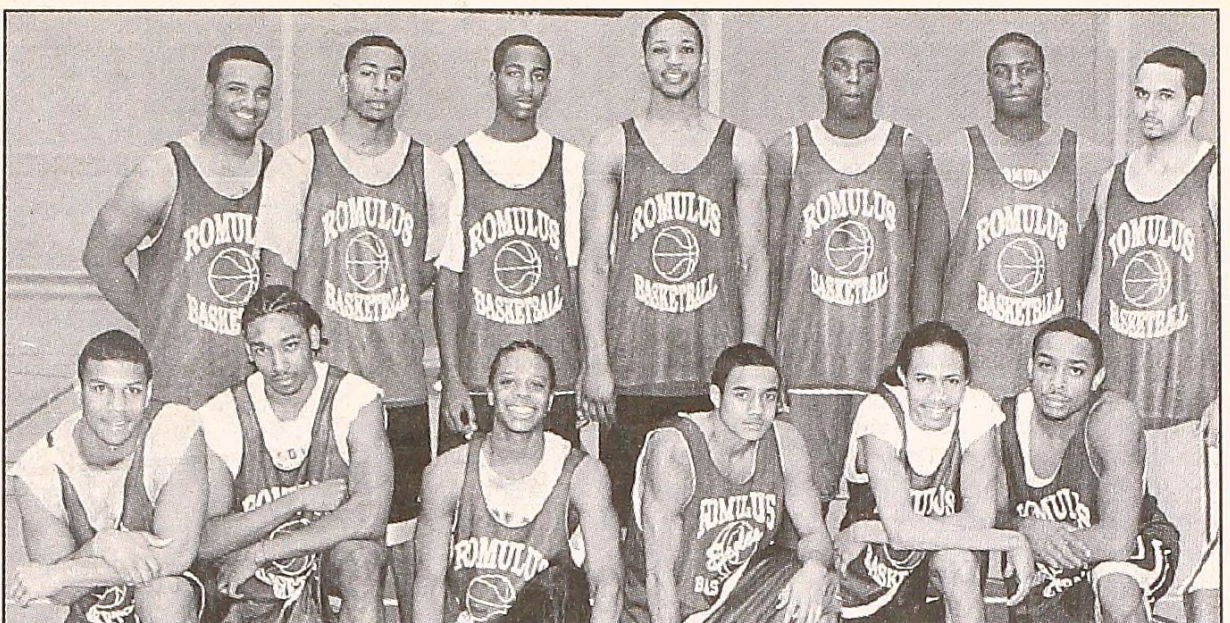
"We got off to a slow start," Belleville coach Mike Krogel said. "We weren't in sync on offense and defense but we played better in the second half and Romulus scored some transition baskets in the first half."

Belleville turned it around and had a solid third quarter and shut down the Romulus defense, 16-10, to tie the game at 40.

The Tigers' good play continued into the fourth quarter but Romulus regained the lead, 58-51.

Isaac Kendall hit a big three pointer and Miller hit for four points from the line to help Bring Belleville back to within one point, 59-58. Kendall made another big play under the basket for the Tigers to take a 60-59 lead for the first time in the game. Freeman assisted on the play.

Things looked promising for



The Romulus Eagles varsity basketball team defeated the Belleville Tigers for the first time in four years Friday night. Team members include: (first row) Kyle Wasson, A.J. Hall, Anre' Partee', Josh Brown, Donte Williams, Jason Gibson; (second row) Jamar Bird, DeMarvelous Carter, Avery Stephenson, Ron Coleman, Marvin Wheeler, Mark Wheeler, Jerret Smith and, not pictured, Tylon Pitts.

Belleville until the last few seconds when Coleman blocked Samarco's lay-up and Wasson scored the winning basket.

"There should have been more separation," Oats said. "We kept missing free throws down the stretch. We were only 3-of-14."

Free throws have been their down fall in their three losses this season, he said. They have gone only 25-62 from the line in the losses to Belleville, River Rouge and Willow Run.

Free throws weren't a problem against Bishop Burgess last Tuesday night where they won by a whopping 73-33 margin.

"They only had seven guys playing in the game," Oats said. "We were only up by 10 at the half, which concerned me. At the half, I talked to the team about

playing hard. Our kids did a good job in the second half. The second string came in and played great."

The defense picked up in the second and held Burgess to six total points in the final two quarters of play, according to Oats.

Coleman led the team again with 22 points and 11 rebounds. Kyle Wasson added 11 in the win.

Both Belleville and Romulus are gearing up for the Mega Tournament and the upcoming district tournament.

Belleville will take on Inkster in the first round of Mega play tonight in Belleville. The winner of that game will play the winner of Dearborn and Ypsillanti on Monday, March 2.

Romulus plays Highland Park at home on Friday night with the

winner playing either Taylor Truman or Willow Run on Monday. The championship game will be played on Friday, March 5 and hosted by Romulus High School.

The district tournament starts on Monday, March 8, also hosted by Romulus. Wayne and John Glenn will battle in the first game at 6:00 p.m. and Romulus will take to the hardwood against Garden City at 8:00 p.m. Belleville and Livonia Franklin both received byes for the first round.

The Tigers will face the winner of the Romulus game and Franklin will face the winner of the Wayne-Westland game on Wednesday, March 10. The championship game will be played on Friday, March 12.

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Warriors top Chiefs, 66-52

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Walled Lake Western's run-and-gun offense shot down the Canton Chiefs, 66-52, in Walled Lake on Friday night.

"They (Western) are great at that type of offense," said Canton coach Charlie Paye. "They get the rebound and run with it. We didn't do a good job guarding them on the perimeter - they're small and fast, and they really pressure you on defense."

The pressure caused Canton to turn the ball over 23 times in the game, he added. They had a hard time containing Western sharp shooter Denard Branch, who scored 18 points to lead his team. He knocked down 14 of the points in the first half before Canton's defense stepped up and held him to only four in the second.

Western led throughout the game. Canton kept it close in the first quarter, where they were only down by two points, 17-15, but they fell further behind in the second, 38-31.

Western put the game out of reach when they outscored Canton, 15-8, in the third quarter, which caused a 53-39 deficit. The scoring remained even at 13 in the fourth but it wasn't enough for the Chiefs to catch up.

Branch led Western with his 18, Brian Kowaleski put in 14 and Anthony Ocho hit for 13.

On Canton's side, D.J. Bridges

led with 13 points. Andy Cortellini added 12 and Julian Smith scored 10 in the effort.

"We had a bunch of turnovers, but our defense wasn't horrible," Paye said. "Western has gotten better since the first time we met them - we won in overtime."

The Chiefs had better luck against their cross-creek rivals the Salem Rocks on Tuesday, Feb. 17. The home game resulted in a 64-48 victory.

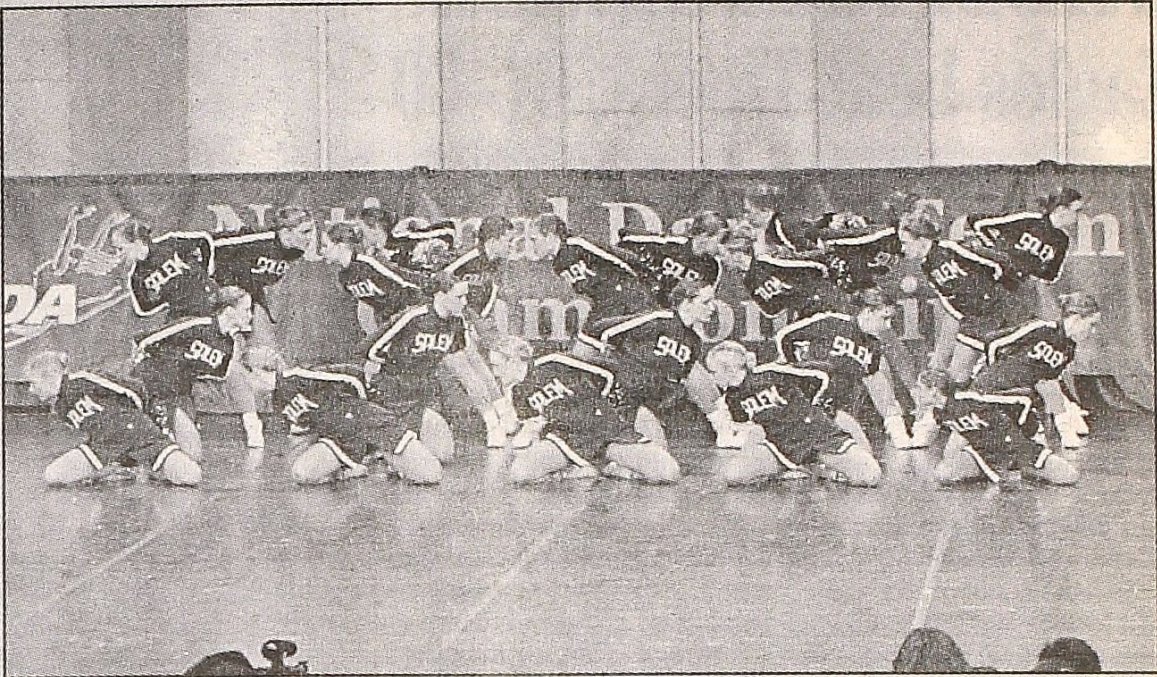
Bridges led the team again with 19 points while Smith added 12 and Waidmann nailed 10 in the win. Kevin Thornton contributed with eight points to round out Canton's top scorers.

They established an inside game with Smith and Waidmann early in order to lead through the game.

Canton was up 34-22 at the end of the first half and continued their strong team play through the final two quarters of play to march away with the 64-48 victory. Canton was 24-49 from two-point range, according to Paye.

Brian Bradley led Salem with 12 points and Brad Clarke added eight in their efforts.

Canton hosted Livonia Churchill and Salem played Walled Lake Central on Tuesday, but the results were unavailable for publications. Canton heads to Livonia Franklin tomorrow night and Salem travels to John Glenn for their last regular season games.



'Bring it on'

The Salem varsity pom team the "Rockettes" qualified to compete at the Universal Dance Association (U.D.A.) National Dance Team Championship in Orlando, FLA, earlier this month. They made it to the finals in both the large varsity pom and the large varsity jazz categories. The team placed 12th out of 51 teams in the pom competition and 10th of 28 in the jazz contest. The "Rockettes" took first place in large varsity contemporary pom and large varsity jazz/technique at the Mid-American Dance Team Competition in November 2003. They also took first place at the U.D.A. Great Lakes Regional Competition last November. Over the summer of 2003, the team placed first at the U.D.A. Elite Camp at Michigan State University.

Chiefs

FROM PAGE 16

attempt to stop a slap shot.

The atmosphere grew intense as the puck remained at Canton's end of the ice until the buzzer sounded to end the game. Carlson had several quality scoring chances but Garrett stepped up and made the saves. The Chiefs held on to secure the 4-3 victory.

"Garret really came through for us, especially at the end," Wheaton said. "He had some great saves to keep us in it. Stewart had a really great game, too."

Canton's final game of the regular season was Wednesday night at home against Livonia Stevenson but the results were unavailable at press time. They are slated to play Ann Arbor Huron in the first round of play-

offs on Tuesday, March 2. They have been matched up with Huron for three of the last four years in the first round of play and have lost to them two out of those three years, according to Wheaton.

"On the positive side," he said, "We have won four of the last five games and if keep playing like we have and the kids execute the same as they have we should do well."

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Whalers foil Rangers, 7-4

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The Plymouth Whalers outscored their opponents 12-6 in their two victories this weekend. The wins gave them a four-game win streak.

Plymouth defeated the defending OHL champions the Kitchener Rangers Saturday night in a 7-4 shootout. Nick Vernelli led the efforts for the Whalers with two goals. Paul Drew had an outstanding night and stopped 36 of 40 shots on net to help secure the win.

It was the Rangers' Jesse Boucher that put the first point on the board, unassisted, at 4:31 into the first period. It didn't take long for Vernelli to answer back for Plymouth. He scored his first goal at 4:44, with an assist going to Ryan Ramsay, to make it a 1-1 game. After that, the spotlight remained on the Whalers, as they would score three unanswered goals.

Captain and Canton Township native James Wisniewski scored the second goal at 10:45 in the first. Craig Cescon and Gino Pisellini earned assist on the

play to make it 2-1. John Vigilante, the Whalers' leading scorer (28), gave them a boost with a power-play goal at 12:07 in first. John Mitchell and Pisellini were credited with the assists. Vernelli scored his second goal to put the team up, 4-1, to end the first period. Assists went to Tim Sestito and Ramsay.

Boucher scored again for Kitchener just 54 seconds into the second period to shorten the

Plymouth still trails the Sarnia Sting by six points in the West Division standings and maintains a winning record at 27-21-9-3.

lead, 4-2. Vaclav Meidl regained Plymouth's three-goal lead, 5-2, on a power play 13 minutes later. Richard Power and David Liffiton notched the assists. But Michael Richards kept the Rangers in the game with an unassisted

goal 10 seconds later to close out the third period of play.

Dan Collins, with help from Cescon and Wisniewski, extended the Whaler lead again to 6-3 at 6:44 in the final period.

But Kitchener continued to fight back. Nathan O'Nabigon scored on a power play at 13:07 to make it a 6-4 game. With the Rangers goalie pulled aside, the net was left empty for Mitchell to score his 23rd goal of the season to put the game away. Mike



John Vigilante (right) gets ready to put the puck past Kitchener goalie Brad Topping in the first period. The goal put the Whalers up 3-1 and helped land the 7-4 victory.

Letizia helped on the final goal. **Whalers 5, Greyhounds 2**

Ramsay led the Whalers to first victory of the weekend against the Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds on Friday night. He scored two goals and assisted on two others to help in the 5-2 victory.

Meidl scored the first goal on a power play at 10:33 in the first period. Jonas Fiedler earned the lone assist.

Matt Puntureri put the 'Hounds on the board with a short-handed goal only 1:53 into the second period. Travis Chapman and Aaron Lewicki

assisted on the game-tying goal. But Plymouth would score three second-period goals to extend their lead, 4-1. Fiedler started the scoring a minute after Pentureri's goal to put the Whalers back on top, 2-1, with Ramsay and Vigilante recording the assists. Ramsay was next with a power-play goal at 9:40. Vigilante and Fiedler collected the assists.

Brent Mahon scored the final goal of the second period with less than a minute to send Plymouth to the locker room with a 4-1 advantage.

Pentureri scored his second

goal of the night at 6:05 in the third to make it a 4-2 game. Lewicki and Jacob King assisted. Finally, Ramsay, with help from Mitchell and Wisniewski, put the game away, 5-2, with a power-play score at 9:03.

Plymouth still trails the Sarnia Sting by six points in the West Division standings and maintains a winning record at 27-21-9-3.

The Whalers face the Sting on the road tonight before they return home at the Compuware Sports Arena in Plymouth tomorrow to take on the Saginaw Spirits and Ottawa on Saturday.

Dick Scott
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